

## **Virginia Spirit of Youth Award**

*Sponsored by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and the  
Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice*

### ***Purpose***

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and the Virginia Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (ACJJ) are pleased to solicit nominations for the third annual Virginia Spirit of Youth Award to recognize and celebrate a young adult who has made great strides following involvement with the juvenile justice system; has overcome personal obstacles; and is today making significant contributions to society.

The award also provides DCJS, the ACJJ, and the public with an important opportunity to learn from a young person's direct experience about the hard work and dedication it takes to build a better life, and how juvenile justice professionals and systems can most effectively be of help. Important questions can be answered, such as: What worked? What could have been done better? Why were you able to make such big changes?

### ***Criteria***

The award recipient must be:

- Under the age of 28 years;
- Not a member of the (National) Coalition for Juvenile Justice;
- A person who was adjudicated delinquent/involved in the juvenile justice system in Virginia; and
- Currently involved, directly or indirectly, in bettering the lives of youth.

### ***Nominations***

DCJS and the ACJJ will recognize appropriate boundaries of confidentiality when handling application forms including personal or sensitive information about nominees.

A subcommittee of the ACJJ will review and discuss all nominations, and select the award recipient.

### ***Presentation***

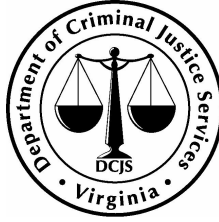
The Department of Criminal Justice Services will invite the recipient to the JJDP Conference to receive the award in front of a statewide audience. The award recipient will be asked to share their experience and what made a difference in their life at a luncheon presentation on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

The award recipient will be asked to sign a release form granting DCJS permission to use descriptive material and photos without compensation for the express purpose of promoting recognition for the recipient, the award and the organization.

The recipient's travel and lodging accommodations will be provided to enable the recipient to attend and speak at the Hampton Roads Convention Center at the JJDP Conference June 19, 2008. The recipient may be the Virginia Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice's nominee for the Coalition on Juvenile Justice (CJJ) Spirit of Youth Award.

***Deadline for 2008 Nominations***

Nominations must be e-mailed to Laureen Hyman at [laureen.hyman@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:laureen.hyman@dcjs.virginia.gov) by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, 2008.



## Virginia Spirit of Youth Award

*Sponsored by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and the  
Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice*

This award celebrates a young adult who, by overcoming personal obstacles and serving his or her community, exemplifies the importance of the rehabilitative focus of the juvenile justice system as well as the power of personal achievement.

The deadline for submitting applications is Wednesday, April 9, 2008.

To be eligible, the nominee must satisfy each of the following criteria. The nominee must be:

- Under the age of 28 years;
- Not a member of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice;
- A person who was adjudicated delinquent/involved in the juvenile justice system in Virginia; and
- Currently involved, directly or indirectly, in bettering the lives of youth.

### **Nominee:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions about the nominee in detail using separate sheets of paper. Please limit all supporting material to four pages.

1. How has the nominee transformed his or her life in a positive way?
2. What were the obstacles this person overcame?
3. Please provide some background information about the nominee's offense history. Do not feel obliged to divulge specific offense information, but provide enough information to indicate extent of involvement with the juvenile justice system.
4. What contributions has this person made in his or her community?

5. How does this person exemplify the importance of the rehabilitative focus of the juvenile justice system?

6. Why are you recommending this person for the Spirit of Youth Award?

***Individual forwarding this nomination:***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

***Name of additional individual who can provide independent corroboration of the information contained within the application:***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

***Submission:***

**Email completed applications to:**

E-mail: [Laureen.hyman@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:Laureen.hyman@dcjs.virginia.gov)

For further information, please call Laurel Marks at (804) 786-3462 or Laureen Hyman (804) 786-9119

I certify that I have discussed this nomination with the nominee and they are willing to consider this nomination and are available to give a luncheon presentation at the conference (June 19, 2008), if selected.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Date